

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2012
6:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late Arrival), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr. (Late Arrival), Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr. (Excused), Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (Late Arrival), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Yeargin

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

2.1. Claudine Meyers, State Highway Administration-MD704 Project

- Mrs. Meyers stated that the plants were selected by Mr. Thompson, Director of Public Works and the landscaper for State Highway Administration.
- She stated that the detail planting is within the City boundaries.
- She stated that the City will be responsible for the upkeep in the median. She stated that they will replant trees at the DC line and will spruce up with new sod and soil.
- She stated they will be mobbing the brick pavers at Addison Road and add more green.
- She stated that the City will be able to plant, plants annually or seasonally.

- They will need an MOU to construct the sign. There is a budget limit on the sign. The sign will be installed at Glen Willow Dr.
- Mayor Grant wanted to know if the sign could be in the median. Mrs. Meyers stated it is a public safety concern and the sign must be a break away. She stated that she will coordinate with Mr. Ashton this week to meet.
- Mayor Grant wanted to know why the changes were made to the original plans. Mrs. Meyers stated it was changed based on the planting. Mayor Grant stated that he was informed that the changes were made due to a new designer. Mrs. Meyers stated that they still have the original plan, but the new designer noticed the type of planting and wanted to know if they would approve.
- Mayor Grant stated that this isn't the first conversation we had with SHA and the concern was raised with regards to the median being raised, which was in the original. He stated the previous plan did have a raised median, but a tightened planting. He stated from Greig Street to 62nd the median should be raised.
- Mrs. Meyers stated the original plan is not off the table. It is what the City is willing to agree to in the MOU. The other segments of the plan will be the same. She was presenting the landscape plans only.
- She stated the maintenance agreement will be in the MOU signed by the SHA and the City.
- She stated the decision on the landscaping needs to be made immediately. There was an e-mail sent in July with the original plans. The traffic sign at 68th and Cabin Branch. There will be crosswalk markings. There will be signs alerting motorists of the crosswalk.
- The City would like to see they yellow/green placards in the crosswalks.
- She will verify the ownership of the median at the District line.
- Mrs. Meyers identified the plant materials. She will meet with Mayor Grant and Mr. Ashton regarding the project.
- **2.2. Grant Overview Introduction-**
- Ms. Barrett stated that she will be looking into environmental green spaces, health and recreation. She stated that she has worked with grants on all three levels, Federal, State and Local.
- Byron Matthews stated that his area of expertise and specialty is Federal and Municipal grant application, as well as raising private support. He stated

that he was informed that the City is interested in raising funds for Community Development and Blighted properties

- Community Development and Sustainable Grants-He stated that the Local government can apply for the grants with State and County. The neighborhood development can be submitted to the State and Local government.
- He stated the HUD choice should be submitted by the State Delegate or County representative.
- Mayor Grant stated that the City is looking for aggressive Grant Writers.
- He stated that the Federal Government will never fund a 100% of any project. He stated that you will need to have a match for the request of monies.
- He stated that the CDBG is accepting application for the FY14. Mayor Grant stated that he would like for them to look into partnering with a non-profit organization.
- Mayor Grant stated that we can get a letter of support from our State leaders.
- He stated that he can get support for the Police Department.
- He identified the various areas of his experience in seeking grants.
- Jane Talbert submitted a Grant Reporting schedule for the current grants of the City. She stated that the C-Safe grant is no longer in existence. The Safe Streets program is similar to the C-Safe program.
- She stated that three weeks ago they submitted two grants. They are scheduled to attend the Community Development Block Grant meeting on September 13, 2012.
- She stated that she was not informed about the initiatives for this year. She stated that they have identified grants for the Farmers Market through the Agriculture.
- She stated that the grant application is due at the end of the month for the Chesapeake grant.

2.3. Koko Barnes, Executive Director of SPCDC-Farmers Market

- Ms. Barnes stated that they have experienced a slow start, but the residents are faithfully attending.
- She stated that they had a list of four farmers, but two were committed until August. They have two farmers and several vendors.
- Mayor Grant stated that the complaint from the community is the Market does not have enough farmers. He wanted her to explain the duties of the Market Manager. He stated there is a concern regarding the advertisement of the Farmers Market, but he sees other vendors that are not selling food.

- He had requested a clear understanding of why we do not have other farmers.
- The Market Manager/Master goes for training and they seek after vendors. They look for available funding and coordinate any disputes, and advertise. They negotiate with Agriculture on the programs.
- He wanted to know if a report has been provided regarding the advertisement, report of funding and programs.
- Mayor Grant stated that the viability of the program is based on the success of the Market.
- She stated that she had three farmers, but the program started in May. The City program started later. She stated the second farmer decided not to come to the Market.
- Mayor Grant stated that he does not support moon bouncing, face painting or selling other goods. He only supports the selling of food.
- The Market Master name is Barron Howard. The Market Master is selling the produce from the youth farm.
- Councilman Porter stated that the items that were donated to the Market need to be stored and cleaned. The last day of the Market will be October 25, 2012.
- She stated that they are doing random surveys of the residents regarding the Market. They have requested the vendors to put the Market on their e-mail list.
- Councilmember Higgs wanted to know if they had any commitments from the farmers. She stated that they did not have any commitments, but they have requested them to pay for the year up front.

3. LEGISLATION

- Ordinance O-13-03 FY2012-2013 Budget Amendment for Code Enforcement Vehicle. O-13-03 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, July 30, 2012 and the first reading was concluded. The second reading was conducted on Tuesday, September 4, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Stephenson to approve Ordinance O-13-03. The motion carried.
- FOR: Hardy, Higgs, Porter, Raynor, Simms, Stephenson and Yeargin
- AGAINST: None
- ABSTAIN: None

4. REPORTS

4.1. Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Grant had to leave the meeting and no report was provided from the Office of the Mayor.

4.2. City Administrator Report:

- Mr. Ashton stated that transitional memorandum from the previous City Administrator will be forth coming.

4.3. Council Committee Reports:

- The City Council did not have any committee reports for the month of August, as they were on recess.

• 5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. Grant Meetings Attendance

- It was requested to disregard request, as it was covered under the presentation of the Grants Overview.

5.2. Supplemental Update of City Code & Codifying City Charter

- Mrs. Lanham provided the City Council with the proposal to update the City Code and informed the Council that the City Charter was not codified.
- She informed the City Council that we need to have a budget amendment to pay for the cost of the update. She stated that the City Treasurer recommended that the budget amendment wait until next month.
- The City Council agreed to the budget amendment in November.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1. Update on City Center Project

- Mayor Grant had to leave the meeting early and no update was provided in writing.

6.2. Update on Groundbreaking Ceremony

- Mayor Grant had to leave the meeting early and no update was provided in writing.

6.3. Special Event Policy

- The City Council postponed the discussion until November and requested that the legislation be prepared for the Regular Work Session.

6.4. Microphone Upgrade for Council Chambers

- Mrs. Lanham presented the revised proposal to the City Council for the microphone upgrade in Council Chambers.
- The Council agreed to the budget amendment for the microphone upgrade for the month of November.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT

7.1. Seat Pleasant City Election, Monday, September 10, 2012, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 7:00a.m.-8:00p.m.

7.2. Community Open House, Saturday, September 8, 2012, St. Margaret's 410 Addison Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 from 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

7.3. Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department 2nd Annual Crab Feast, Saturday, September 15, 2012, 6305 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 from 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m. Tickets are \$35.00 in advance and \$45.00 at the door

7.4. Ward II Crime Prevention Training, Wednesday, September 26, 2012, Pleasant Homes Community Center, 6810 Greig Street, Seat Pleasant, MD from 6:00pm-8:00pm

ADJOURN-The meeting adjourned at 8:49pm

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham

City Clerk